AMENDMENT

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 8 with the following rewritten paragraph:

- - Figures 2A-2E show expression levels of hIL-7Rα (Figures 2A-2B), Rδ2 (hTSLPR, Figures 2C-2D), and IL-B50 in various tissues and cell types. Expression levels were normalized and expressed as femtograms mRNA per 50 ng total cDNA. - -

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 26 with the following rewritten paragraph:

- - Figures 6A-6C show the surface phenotype of DC after treatment with medium alone, IL-B50, CD40-ligand (CD40L), IL-7 and LPS. IL-B50 is more potent than CD40-ligand and IL-7 in upregulating costimulatory molecules CD40 and CD80. - -

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 64, line 18 with the following rewritten paragraph:

- - In order to identify target cells capable of responding to IL-B50888888, a large panel of cDNA libraries was analyzed for the simultaneous expression of both hIL-7Rα and hRδ2, using quatitative PCR. Results of the expression analysis, conducted as described in materials and methods, are presented in Figures 2A-2E. In particular,

indicating that these cell types respond to human IL-B50. As shown in Figure 2E, IL-

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 65, line 15 with the following rewritten paragraph:

- - Additionally, the ability of IL-B50 to stimulate DCs to produce mRNAs for various cytokines and chemokines was compared with that of GM-CSF, IL-7, CD40-ligand (CD40L) and medium alone as a control, as follows. Purified CD11c+ DCs were cultured for 15-17 hours with iL-B50 (15 ng/mi), GM-CSF (100 ng/mi), IL-7 (50 ng/mi), CD40-ligand transfected L-cells (1 L-cell/4 DC) or medium alone. Total RNA was extracted and studied using real time quantitative PCR as described above. As shown in Figures 12A and 12C, IL-B50 did not stimulate human DCs to produce mRNA for IL-1α, IL-1β, IL-6, IL-12p40, TNF-α, MCP-1, MCP-4, Rantes and MIG, but did stimulate human DCs to produde mRNA for the chemokines TARC, MDC and MIP3-β (Figure 12B). - -

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 67, line 9 with the following rewritten paragraph:

- - Freshly purified immature CD11c+ blood DC are known to spontaneously mature in culture. As shown in Figure 4A, loose and irregular clumps in the DC culture were evident after 24 hrs in medium alone. In the presence of IL-B50, this maturation process was dramatically enhanced. DC in culture formed tight and round clumps with

cytometry. Whereas IL-B50 slightly upregulated the expression of HLA-DR and CD86,

maturation process was accompanied by an increased viability of the DC. Additionally, IL-B50 was more potent than CD40-ligand (CD40L) and IL-7 in upregulating CD40 and CD80 (Figures 6A-6C). A titration of IL-B50 using log dilutions of the cytokine showed that both the effect on survival and the induction of costimulatory molecules on DC was maximal at 15 ng/ml and above, and still significant at concentrations as low as 15 pg/ml. - -

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request these amendments be entered to properly refer to Figures 2A-2E, and Figures 6A-6C, rather than the original reference to Figures 2A-2C and a single Figure 6. A typo is corrected on page 67, at line 14, to correctly reference Figure 4B, and not 6B. Applicants also seek to correct the failure of Greek characters to print on page 65, beginning at line 22.

Applicants believe that no new matter is added by way of this amendment.

Attached hereto is a marked up version of the changes made to the specification by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned, "Version with markings to show changes made."

Summary

Applicants' amendments are necessary due to formalization of Figures 2A-2E,